LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A cutting implement comprising:

a plurality of sets of jaws, each set of jaws including opposing upper and lower jaws which are positioned side by side and are pivotable about and displaced along a common axis,

wherein adjacent upper and lower jaws are displaced relative to one another about said axis so that when operated the sets of jaws are together adapted to cut a single length of material at a plurality of separate points along the length of said material, and whereby a single actuation of said implement is adapted to cause each of said sets of jaws to at least partially close in sequence, and wherein at least one of the upper and lower jaws from each set of jaws is fixed, the fixed jaws being fixed at a different angle relative to a common pivot axis.

2. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the consecutive closing of adjacent sets of jaws places a first set of jaws in a cutting configuration and a second immediately adjacent set of jaws in a substantially clamping configuration.

3. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sets of jaws are adapted to pivot closed to complete a cutting or shearing operation.

4. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein a single actuation of the implement is capable of causing all of the sets of jaws to close.

5. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, which is configured to be actuated through the operation of a hydraulic ram associated with machinery to which the implement is attached.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein each set of jaws is formed by two opposing jaws elements which are adapted to move together to cut, crack or shear a length of material.

10. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of sets of jaws are adapted to each execute a separate cut through a length of material in a single actuation of the implement.

11. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the sets of jaws are adapted to close at separate positions along the length of the material.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein each jaw set is formed from two opposed V-shaped jaw elements.

14. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein each jaw includes at least one blade, wherein each blade incorporates a leading edge.

15. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 14, wherein the leading edge of each blade is oriented opposite to a leading edge of an immediately adjacent jaw's blade or blades.

16. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, which is configured to connect to machinery adapted to operate the implement.

17. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, which is adapted to connect to the actuator arm of an excavator.

18. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, which are adapted to cut, crack or shear a variety of different types of material.

19. (Previously presented) A cutting implement as claimed in claim 17, which includes a driving ram adapted to operate in conjunction with the excavator to pivot top portions of the sets of jaws about a single common axis to close the jaws and complete a cutting operation.

20. (Canceled)